

Community Environmental Advisory Commission Agenda

Regular Meeting

January 17, 2022 - 05:00 PM

City Hall Room 132

Members: Reid Brown, Mark Dhennin, Ophelie Echelard, Mathew Douglas-May, Sandy Fazeli, LesLee Jackson, Hannah Jenkins, Anna Johnson, Toya Lopez, Nicholas Minderman, Erin Niehoff, Verlynn Schmalle, Philip Sturm, Gina Suarez, BJ Wilder (Quorum - 8)

Staff: Bjorn Olson

Guests: Alison Babb, City of Minneapolis Homegrown Food Council, Health Department; Tyra, Community Member

Call to Order

1. Roll Call.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Acceptance of minutes

December 21, 2022 Community Environmental Advisory Commission

Consent

Location:
Minneapolis City Hall
350 S 5th St. Room 132

Land Acknowledgement: As we meet here today, we are reminded that Minneapolis is situated on the homelands of the Dakota people. An area that is steeped in rich Indigenous history, it is home to Indigenous people from more than 30 different nations. As a City, we have a responsibility to care for the land on which we live and work and all its natural surroundings. This stewardship is an integral part of our involvement in this commission, and we honor it as we begin our meeting. We now open this space to discuss ways in which we can support Indigenous and Black people in our community.

MLK Jr. Day was Monday, which is also celebrated as Robert E. Lee Day in Alabama and Mississippi.

FRYBREAD TACO FUNDRAISER

<https://fb.me/e/5pttlydzU?mibextid=N4tvPT> is the link to the event

WHEN: Friday, January 20th, 2023

TIME: 5:00 - 7:00 PM

WHERE: 4200 Cedar Ave South, Minneapolis

COST: \$8 per frybread taco

Frybread tacos will be available for pickup or to eat onsite. People are welcome to stay and eat from 5:00 - 7:00 PM.

The family of Alexis White Hawk-Ruiz is hosting a frybread taco fundraiser to help with their GoFundMe for a private investigator (PI). Alexis' family needs help with the cost of hiring a PI to help find and bring Alexis back home. Alexis has been missing since 11/16/22.

Please visit the Finding Alexis Whitehawk-Ruiz page for more information about Alexis' missing person case and for other ways you can help her family bring Alexis home.
To donate to the Finding Alexis Whitehawk-Ruiz GoFundMe: <https://gofund.me/59a6db28>
Finding Alexis Whitehawk-Ruiz group:
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100088775440450&mibextid=ZbWKwL>

Presentations:

Community Environmental Advisory Commission Overview

The group discussed the structure and Bylaws of CEAC including ways to allow for sub-groups to work within allotted meeting times to do deeper dives on topics of interest for self-selecting Commissioners. Four seats remain open on the Commission and staff is actively working with Council Member offices in Wards 3, 5, 6, and 8 to recruit applicants. Coordination and communication with other Boards and Commissions of interest and common purpose is encouraged.

Commissioners were encouraged to complete the online form indicating their recurring meeting availability and their topics of interest as soon as possible.

Until the MN State Open Meeting Law is changed, a hybrid option will not be available for meetings. There are indications that this is moving at the state legislature.

February's meeting will consist of the voting of co-chairs, confirming recurring meeting dates, reviewing Robert's Rules of Order and creation of the Commission's ground rules for discussion and engagement at meetings. Food options at meetings, either pot luck, bring-your-own, or ordering food, will be organized on an ad hoc basis.

Ordinance of Proposed Board Reforms

The City Clerk's Office has drafted an ordinance to recategorize and restructure advisory boards and commissions (ABCs) in a more uniform order. The draft is currently undergoing legal review and is expected to be presented to Council in February or March.

The ordinance will create a uniform set of bylaws, structure (1 seat per ward and 2 for the Mayor's Office), and will provide additional City Clerk support and coordination with Communications and Neighborhood and Community Relations Departments for engagement and member recruitment. CEAC will be renamed as an Advisory Board. Annual workplans will be submitted and bodies will be reviewed to evaluate whether they are "producing desirable and useful outcomes".

The group discussed concerns over who would be evaluating the ABCs, what criteria they would be using, and what courses of action would occur if an ABC is deemed no longer desirable or useful. In addition, there was concern that no mention of stipends, food allowances, or equity considerations in this ordinance. CEAC is interested in making a list of concerns and recommendations to Council to consider before adopting. City Staff will forward along any updates and developments as they occur.

Discussion:

Welcome!

CEAC Orders of Business:

Recurring meeting dates and times
Topics of interest
CEAC leadership
General discussion

Old Business

Updates and Announcements from Commissioners and staff

Possible Future CEAC Meeting Topics:

- Impacts of the Inflation Reduction Act
- Air monitoring networks in Minneapolis
- Better coordination with MPRB
- Carbon Free Zones and fossil gas free development
- How to reduce plastic in the community?
- How do we reduce emissions from the HERC?
- Electrical heating technologies

Masks and hand sanitizer will be provided. After 6pm the S 5th Street doors (light rail side) to City Hall are locked. Metro passes and parking passes for the Haaf Ramp are available.

Adjournment

Next Community Environmental Advisory Commission meeting: TBD

For reasonable accommodations or alternative formats please contact the City Coordinator's Office at 612-673-2563 or e-mail sustainability@minneapolismn.gov. People who are deaf or hard of hearing can use a relay service to call 311 at 612-673-3000. TTY users call 612-263-6850. Para asistencia 612-673-2700 - Rau kev pab 612-673-2800 - Hadii aad Caawimaad u baahantahay 612-673-3500.